

Message Text

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R 122223Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

INFO USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

S E C R E T STATE 032418

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, PLOS, PFOR, CH, KS

SUBJECT: GULF PLANS TO DRILL IN EAST CHINA SEA

REF: (A) SEOUL 528, (B) STATE 8457

1. ON FEB. 10 DEPUTY SECRETARY INGERSOLL, REFERRING TO CONVERSATION WITH HILL OF GULF, EXPRESSED DEPARTMENT'S CONCERN OVER GULF PLANS TO DRILL IN DISPUTED AREA OF EAST CHINA SEA TO BOB DORSEY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, GULF OIL. DEPUTY SECRETARY POINTED OUT THAT PRC WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY TAKE EXCEPTION TO PROPOSED DRILLING AND THAT USG COULD NOT GUARANTEE PROTECTION OF CREWS INVOLVED IN SUCH OPERATIONS.

2. DORSEY, WHO APPARENTLY NOT FULLY FAMILIAR WITH GULF KOREAN OPERATIONS, SAID GULF KOREA DRILLING HAS HAD

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MINIMAL SUCCESS; GULF WAS JUST MEETING ITS OBLIGATION

TO ROKG IN CONTINUING TO DRILL. HE PROMISED CHECK INTO
OPERATIONS IN KOREA AND CALL BACK DEPUTY SECRETARY.

3. AFTER DORSEY GIVES US GULF'S REACTION, WE INTEND TO
AUTHORIZE EMBASSY SEOUL TO FOLLOW UP EXPRESSING OUR
CONCERN DIRECTLY TO ROKG. INGERSOLL

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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